



Drought Information Statement for Central and Southwest Kansas

Valid October, 22, 2026

Issued By: WFO Dodge City

Contact Information:

- This product will be updated monthly during episodes of D3 drought and sometimes D2.
 - Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
 - Please visit [https://www.weather.gov/\[WFO\]/DroughtInformationStatement](https://www.weather.gov/[WFO]/DroughtInformationStatement) for previous statements.
 - Please visit [https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/\[link\]](https://www.drought.gov/drought-status-updates/[link]) for regional drought status updates.
-
- Drought has improved across all of central and southwest Kansas.

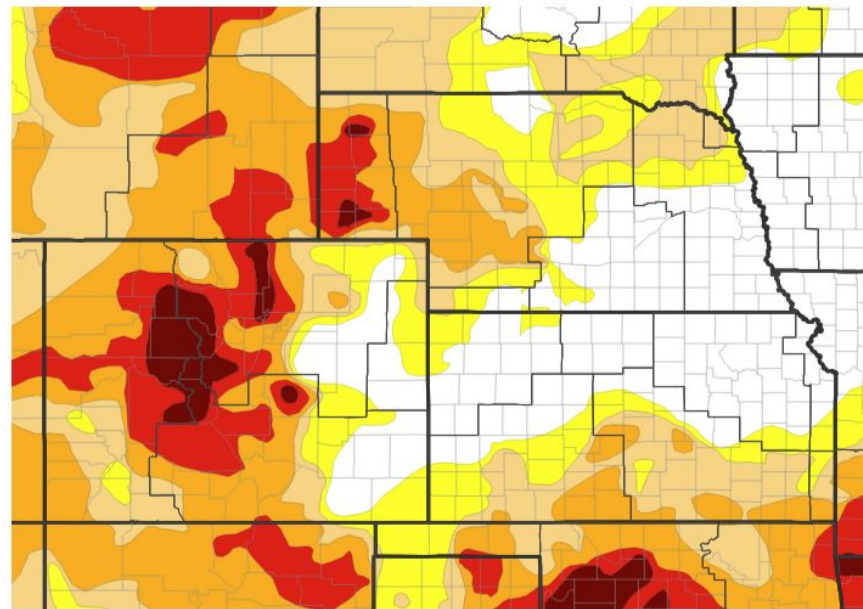


U.S. Drought Monitor (released 22 October 2026)

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for the United States

- There are pockets of D1 and D2 drought across the southern tier of central and southwest Kansas.
- Improvements in drought have occurred in most places.

U.S. Drought Monitor



U.S. Drought Monitor



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/13/26



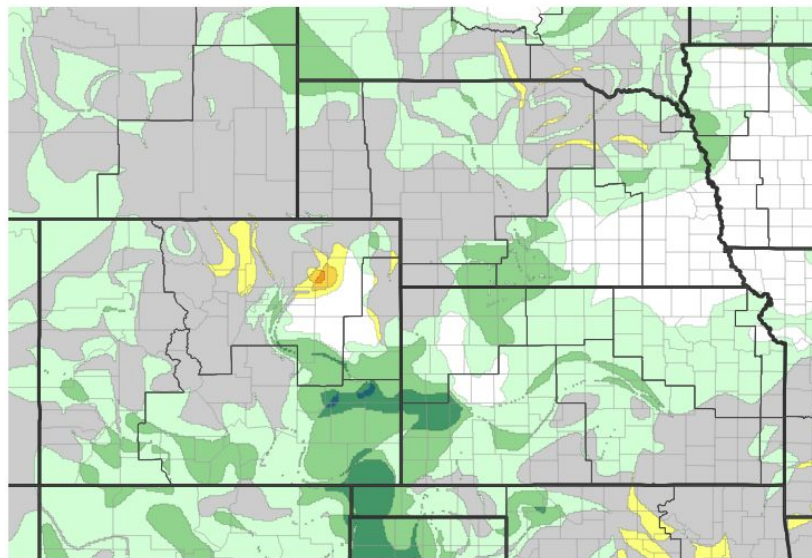


Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for the United States

- 4-Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
 - Drought has improved across most of central and southwest Kansas.
 - Drought has improved the least over south central Kansas including Pratt, Barber and Comanche counties.

U.S. Drought Monitor 4-Week Change Map



Drought Degradation



Drought Improvement



Source(s): NDMC, NOAA, USDA, NASA; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/13/26

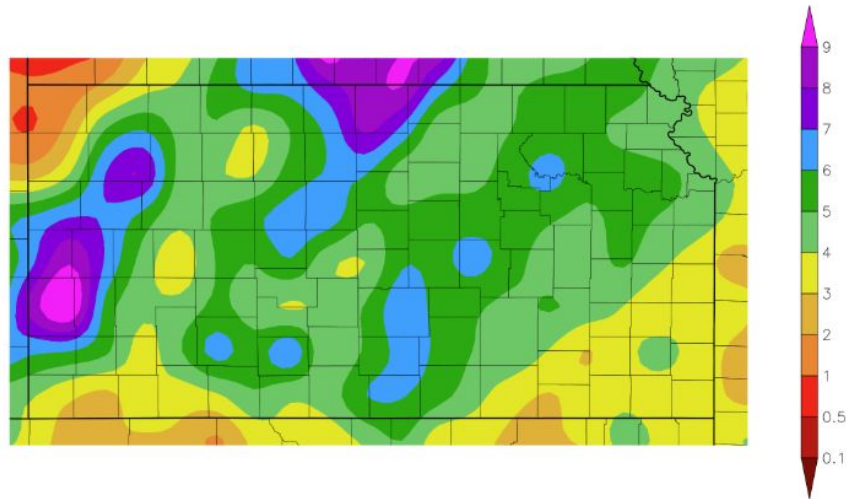




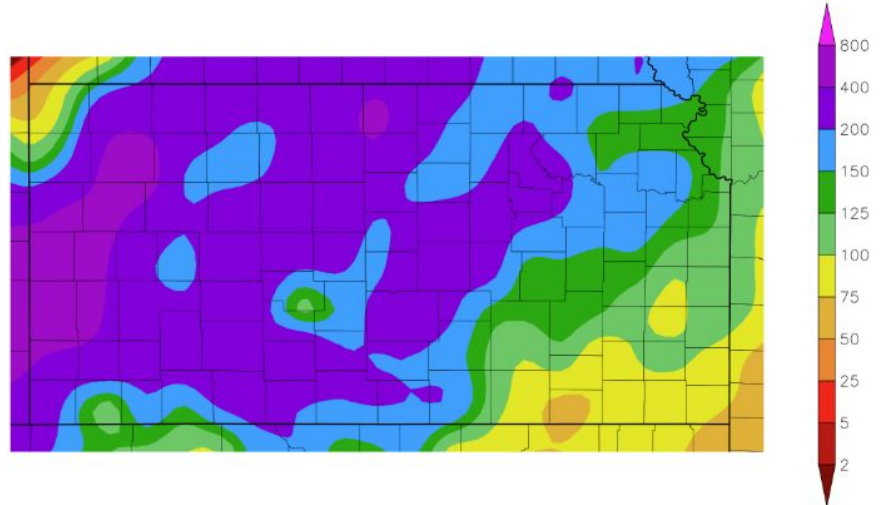
Precipitation For The Past Month

- Precipitation was well above average across most of central and southwest Kansas.

Precipitation (in)
9/22/2026 – 10/21/2026



Percent of Normal Precipitation (%)
9/22/2026 – 10/21/2026

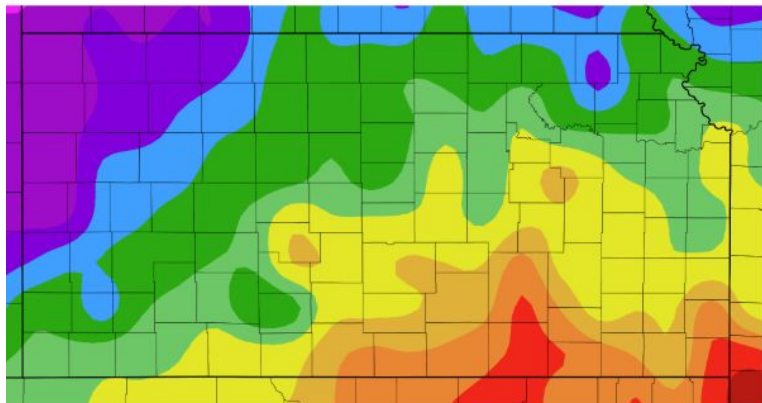




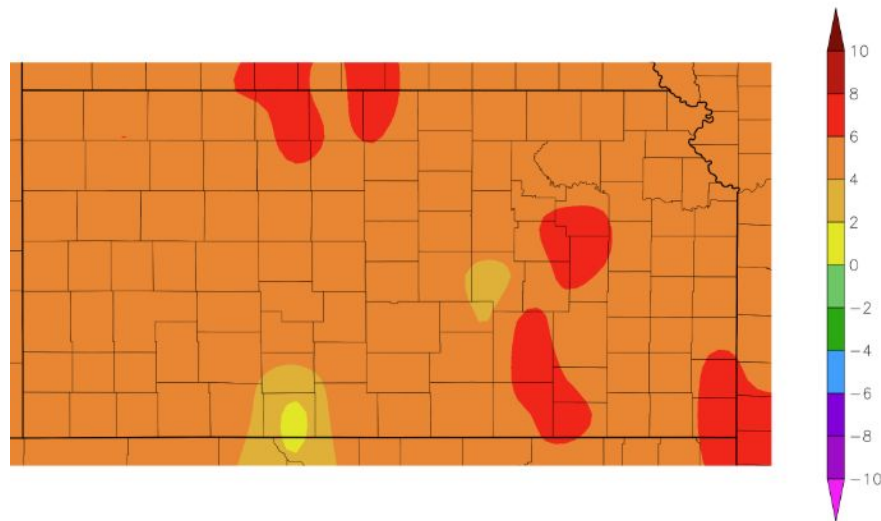
Temperatures Over The Past Month

- Temperatures were well above average over the past month.

Temperature (F)
9/22/2026 – 10/21/2026



Departure from Normal Temperature (F)
9/22/2026 – 10/21/2026





Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

Hydrologic Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time.

Agricultural Impacts

- Continued wet weather should aid agriculture.

Fire Hazard Impacts

- Fire weather is not a major concern at this time.

Other Impacts

- None.

Mitigation Actions

- None reported.

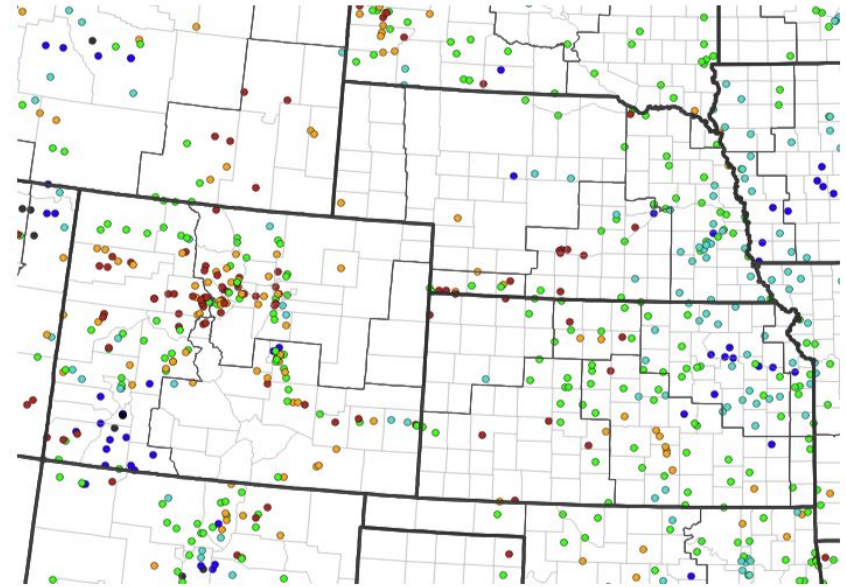




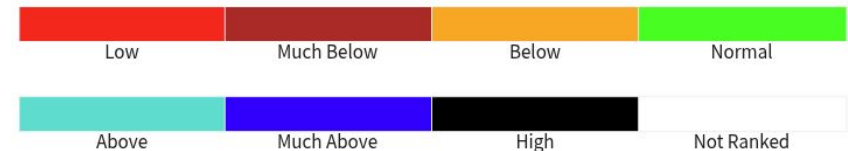
Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Streamflow was normal across much of central and southwest Kansas.
- There were a few pockets of below average streamflow.

1-Day Average Streamflow Conditions



Streamflow Conditions



Source(s): U.S. Geological Survey; image courtesy of Drought.gov

Data Valid: 10/20/26

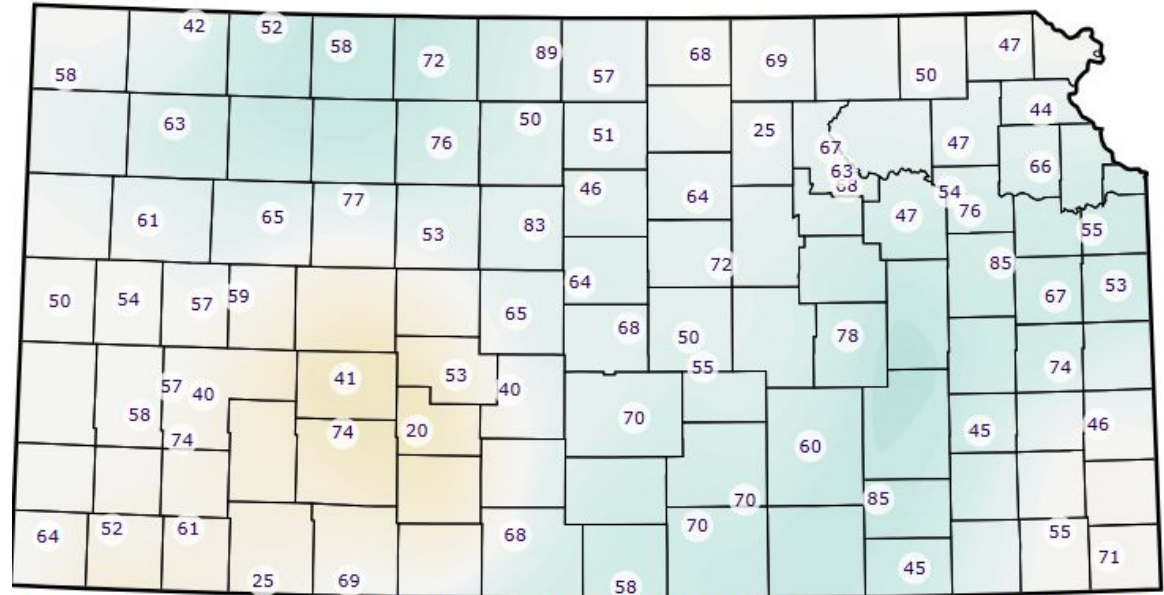




Soil Moisture

- Percent of soil saturation at 5 cm is 50-70% across central Kansas and generally between 30% to 60% across southwest Kansas.
- The lowest soil moisture was across Edwards and Hodgeman counties.

Percent of Saturation at 5 cm



This map is representative of grassland vegetation

Mesonet Data - 5 cm % Saturation at Oct 22 2026 14:35 (CDT)

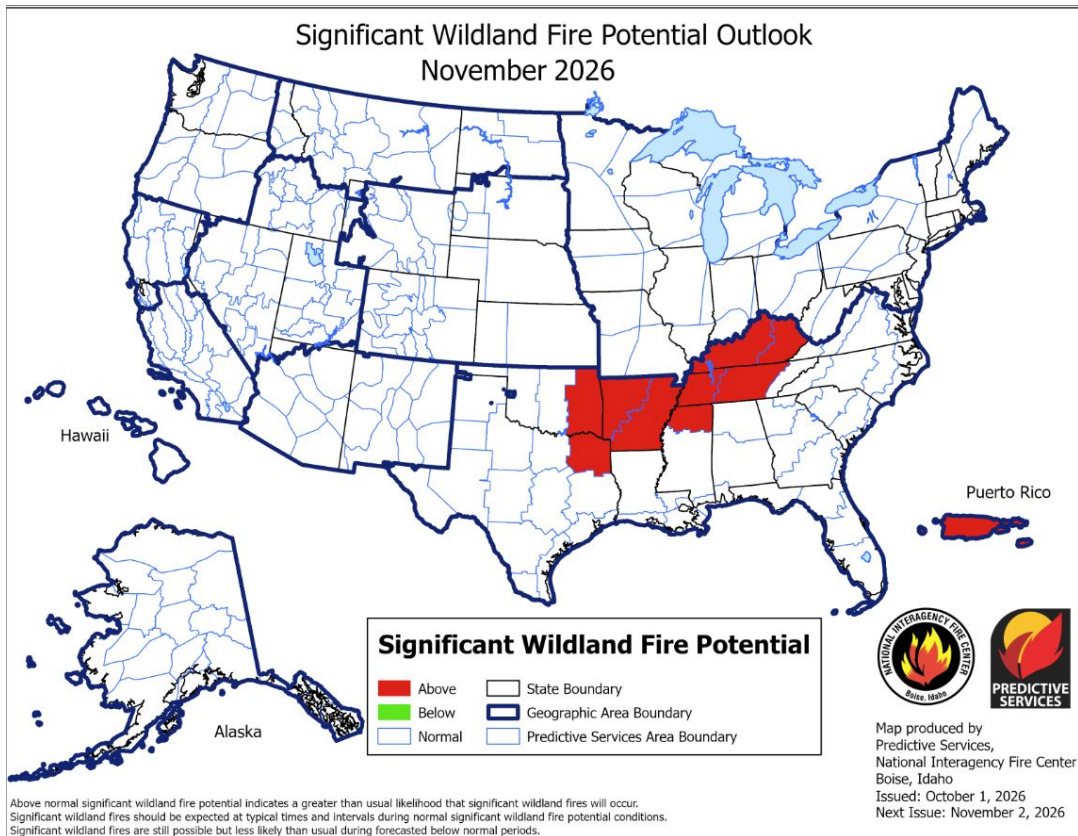




Fire Hazard Impacts

Link to [Wildfire Potential Outlooks from the National Interagency Coordination Center](#).

- Wildland fire potential is not a major concern unless dry and windy conditions return.
- For November the highest potential is south and east of Kansas.



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

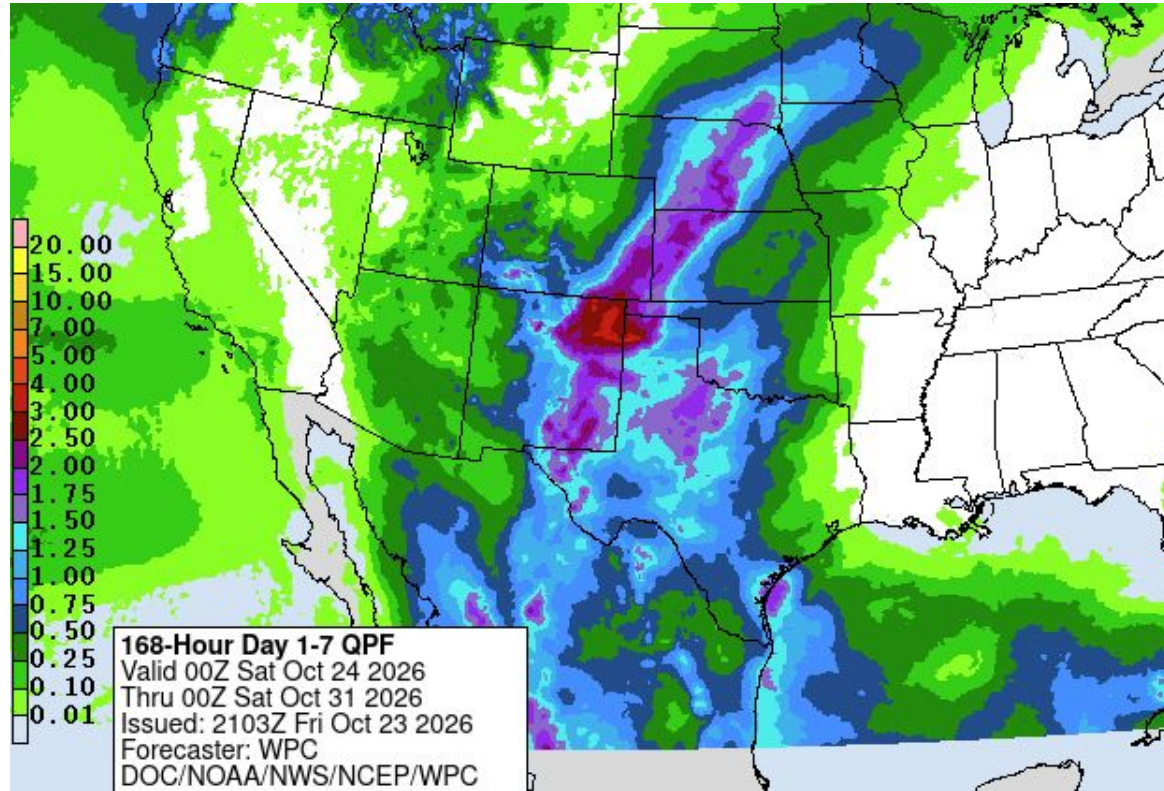
U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
[Dodge City]



Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- Widespread rain is forecast from Saturday night through Monday.
- Locally heavy rain is possible along and west of a line from Liberal to Garden City to Wakeeney,

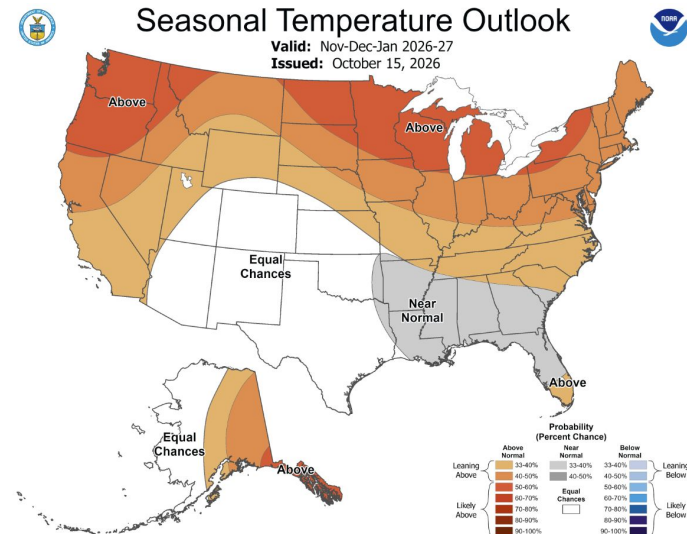
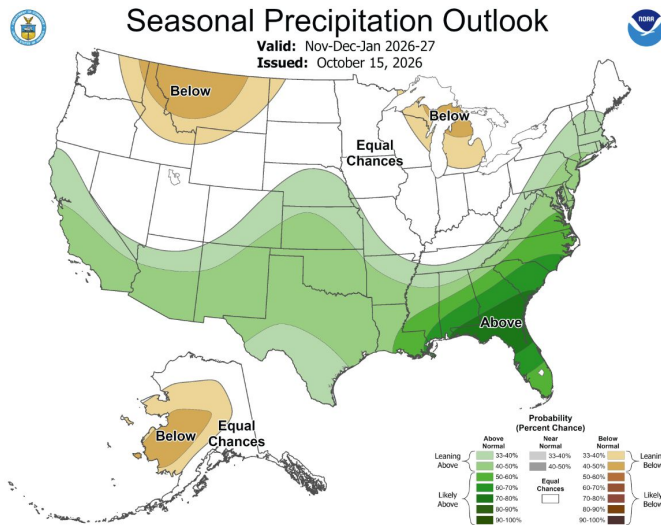




Long-Range Outlooks (November-January)

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](https://cpc.ncep.noaa.gov)

- There are higher than average chances of above average precipitation.
- There are equal chances for above and below average temperatures.
- Keep in mind that seasonal predictability of precipitation at any given location is very low, especially across the high plains where rains tend to be smaller in scale, but intense.





Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

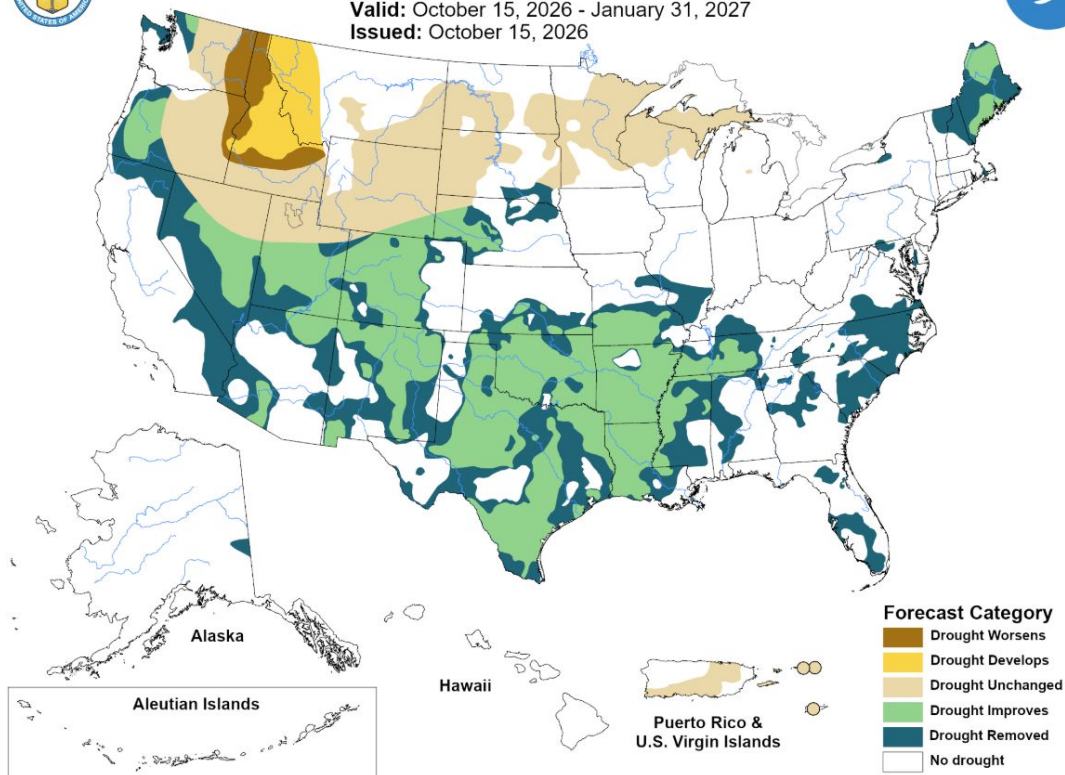
- Drought is expected to improve over the southern tier of western Kansas.
- This is based on the continuance of a wetter pattern.
- Keep in mind that seasonal predictability of precipitation is very low across the high plains.



Seasonal Drought Outlook

Valid: October 15, 2026 - January 31, 2027

Issued: October 15, 2026



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)

[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)



National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

National Weather Service
[Dodge City]